

Progress at forgotten cemetery

BY DEAN TAYLOR

Progress towards unveiling the Memorial Wall at Tokanui Hospital Cemetery in late February is on track thanks to sponsor businesses and volunteers.

The Memorial Wall is being fully sponsored by James R. Hill Funeral Directors from Hamilton.

The curved wall will be made from black granite and will include an etched design along with the names of all those buried in the cemetery.

The base was recently completed thanks to Bowers Concrete, Jeremy Walker Concrete Laying and volunteers.

The wall will be the centrepiece of the cemetery.

A flag will fly over the cemetery on a stainless steel pole thanks to NDA Engineering and a seat is to be mounted on the concrete base allowing visitors to sit looking back towards the names.

Each grave will have its own small headstone and plaque with the name of the person, dates and grave number.

The project was initiated by Hamilton man Maurice Zinsli, who discovered a long-lost relative was buried in the 'forgotten cemetery'. He is now project manager for the cemetery improvements.

Mr Zinsli says the wall and headstones are fitting gestures — 'the least we can do for them'.

"It brings closure."

A new initiative has been to open an ASB Bank account for people to contribute donations to assist with the current project and for future work and maintenance.

People wishing to donate can do so at any branch to account number 12-31314-0061582-00.

■ **If you are interested in following the progress of developments in the cemetery go to:**
www.tokanuihospitalcemetery.weebly.com or
 contact Mr Zinsli: mezizzle@clear.net.nz or (07) 847 8050 (a/h).

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CONCRETE footing being poured thanks to Bowers Concrete, Jeremy Walker Concrete Laying and volunteers.



IMPRESSION of Tokanui Hospital Cemetery with Memorial Wall and flagpole installed and new grass.

COURIER GRAPHIC



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